



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1325 J STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814-2922

Environmental Resources Branch

JUN 30 2008

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Sacramento River Bank Protection Project
Thirteen Erosion Sites, 2008-2009

I have reviewed and evaluated the information in this Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS); final Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements IV and V prepared for the Sacramento River Bank Protection Project (SRBPP); related documents; and the views of other agencies, organizations, and individuals concerning the proposed levee work at 13 erosion sites in Sacramento, Yolo, Glenn, Sutter, and Solano Counties in northern California.

Of the 13 sites, eight are located along the Sacramento River at River Miles (RM's) 16.8L, 42.7R, 49.7L, 52.3L, 53.5R, 55.2L, 77.2L, and 177.8L. Another site is located along the lower Feather River at RM 28.5R, and two sites are located along the lower American River at RM's 0.3L and 2.8L. The last two sites are located at Steamboat Slough RM 16.6R and Cache Slough RM 21.8R near the Delta. Bank erosion at these sites requires immediate bank protection work to prevent levee failure.

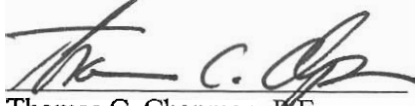
This work would be conducted in 2008 and 2009. Overall, the project would consist of (1) reinforcing the bank toe with a total of 8,000 lineal feet of riprap, covering an area of 18.5 acres; (2) placing a mixture of riprap and soil (mixture of sand and silt suitable for plant growth) on upper banks and tops of the lower bank riprap to create riparian benches above the mean summer water elevation, covering a total area of 10.63 acres; and (3) planting the benches and upper banks with vegetation to provide bank stabilization and riparian habitat. In-stream woody material would also be placed along the sites to provide bank protection and aquatic habitat.

The possible consequences of the work described in the EA/IS have been studied with consideration given to environmental, social, economic, and engineering feasibility. The effects, significance, and mitigation requirements have been fully coordinated with other Federal and State resource agencies. The proposed levee work would have short-term adverse effects on riparian habitat and aquatic habitat values. Environmentally sensitive design and mitigation measures have been integrated into the project to fully compensate for these effects.

Based on my review, I have determined that the proposed levee work will have no significant adverse effects on the environment, and that the mitigation measures agreed to in the EA/IS are sufficient to substantially reduce potentially significant effects. In accordance with the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*), the Corps will implement all terms and conditions included in each Biological Opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries Service. The Corps will also consider recommendations discussed in the final Coordination Act Report issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661, *et seq.*).

Based on these considerations, I am convinced that there is no need to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. The EA/IS and Finding of No Significant Impact provide adequate National Environmental Policy Act compliance for the proposed action.

30 Jun 08
Date


Thomas C. Chapman, P.E.
Colonel, U.S. Army
District Engineer